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TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (U.S. FOREST SERVICE)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Reserve
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Veneer Log Production Declines Sharply in Lake States as Result of Mill Closures, 1958

A recent survey completed by the Station shows that veneer log production in the Lake States amounted to approximately 53 million board feet in 1958 (see table on reverse side). This cut is one-third less than in 1956 and is the smallest recorded since the mid-thirties. Of the three states, Michigan showed the greatest decline in production, decreasing 50 percent from 1956. The decline in Wisconsin was only 22 percent. Minnesota production, on the other hand, registered a slight increase.

Fifteen of the 90 veneer mills in the region have closed down operations since the mid-fifties. Twelve of these were container veneer plants using about 15 million board feet of container grade logs; and the other three produced commercial, utility, and special type veneer from about 5 million board feet of high-grade veneer logs. Most of the plants active in 1958 did not maintain their usual levels of operation. The mill closures, as well as the lower production of the active plants, were caused mainly by uncertain business conditions, stiff competition from other areas and products, and a short supply of quality veneer timber.

Total veneer log receipts at Lake States mills were about 57½ million board feet, a decline of 38 percent from 1956. Beech, maple, and birch declined the most, dropping off by 68, 56, and 40 percent, respectively. Imports from other states and Canada declined 73 and 49 percent, respectively. Standard grade veneer plants received approximately 44½ million board feet of the total; the remaining 13 million board feet were channeled to plants producing container veneers. In addition container plants received 11,000 cords of bolts for producing heading stock.

Geographic origin and destination of veneer logs received by Lake States plants, 1958

Species	Percent of veneer logs originating from:					Percent of veneer logs received by:		
	Minn.	Wis.	Mich.	Other U. S.	Canada	Minn. mills	Wis. mills	Mich. mills
Aspen	14	83	3	-	-	2	96	2
Ash	17	66	17	-	-	5	89	6
Basswood	39	43	15	3	-	17	71	12
Beech	-	4	96	-	-	-	6	94
Birch	8	17	51	-	24	-	73	27
Cottonwood	86	2	12	-	-	15	73	12
Elm	19	57	21	3	-	2	78	20
Maple, hard	2	47	43	-	8	-	75	25
Maple, soft	4	52	34	10	-	1	71	28
Oak	12	77	7	2	2	-	98	2
Walnut	-	73	27	-	-	-	-	-
Misc. hardwoods	6	39	44	9	2	-	68	32
All species	15	40	34	2	9	3	75	22
Previous survey (1956)	10	33	43	3	11	2	73	25

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MAINTAINED AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Production and imports of veneer logs, Lake States, 1958
(M board feet International 1/4-Inch Log Rule)

Species and destination	Production by states ^{1/}				Imports			Total receipts
	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Michigan	Region	Other U. S. ^{2/}	Canada	Total imports	
Aspen								
Minnesota	26	-	-	26	-	-	-	26
Wisconsin	210	1,443	28	1,681	-	-	-	1,681
Michigan	-	-	28	28	-	-	-	28
Total	236	1,443	56	1,735	-	-	-	1,735
Ash								
Minnesota	28	-	-	28	-	-	-	28
Wisconsin	68	384	67	519	-	-	-	519
Michigan	-	-	34	34	-	-	-	34
Total	96	384	101	581	-	-	-	581
Basswood								
Minnesota	1,245	-	-	1,245	-	-	-	1,245
Wisconsin	1,520	3,137	292	4,949	253	1	254	5,203
Michigan	72	-	804	876	-	-	-	876
Total	2,837	3,137	1,096	7,070	253	1	254	7,324
Beech								
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	-	70	46	116	-	-	-	116
Michigan	-	-	1,714	1,714	-	-	-	1,714
Total	-	70	1,760	1,830	-	-	-	1,830
Birch								
Minnesota	55	-	-	55	-	-	-	55
Wisconsin	1,155	2,968	5,663	9,786	-	2,776	2,776	12,562
Michigan	94	-	3,176	3,270	-	1,319	1,319	4,589
Total	1,304	2,968	8,839	13,111	-	4,095	4,095	17,206
Cottonwood								
Minnesota	325	-	-	325	-	-	-	325
Wisconsin	1,547	31	-	1,578	-	-	-	1,578
Michigan	-	-	264	264	-	-	-	264
Total	1,872	31	264	2,167	-	-	-	2,167
Elm								
Minnesota	138	-	-	138	-	-	-	138
Wisconsin	1,567	5,272	57	6,896	293	-	293	7,189
Michigan	-	-	1,828	1,828	-	4	4	1,832
Total	1,705	5,272	1,885	8,862	293	4	297	9,159
Maple, hard								
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	250	4,886	1,367	6,503	25	688	713	7,216
Michigan	-	-	2,164	2,164	-	188	188	2,352
Exported ^{3/}	-	-	974	974	-	-	-	-
Total	250	4,886	4,505	9,641	25	876	901	9,568
Maple, soft								
Minnesota	19	-	-	19	-	-	-	19
Wisconsin	78	1,302	157	1,537	242	3	245	1,782
Michigan	-	-	684	684	-	4	4	688
Total	97	1,302	841	2,240	242	7	249	2,489
Oak								
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	606	3,814	309	4,729	103	86	189	4,918
Michigan	-	80	-	80	-	-	-	80
Exported ^{3/}	-	-	36	36	-	-	-	-
Total	606	3,894	345	4,845	103	86	189	4,998
Walnut								
Minnesota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exported ^{3/}	-	172	65	237	-	-	-	-
Total	-	172	65	237	-	-	-	-
Misc. species								
Minnesota	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Wisconsin	26	181	92	299	-	-	-	299
Michigan	-	-	89	89	40	11	51	140
Exported ^{3/}	-	-	20	20	-	-	-	-
Total	28	181	201	410	40	11	51	441
All species								
Minnesota	1,838	-	-	1,838	-	-	-	1,838
Wisconsin	7,027	23,488	8,078	38,593	916	3,554	4,470	43,063
Michigan	166	80	10,785	11,031	40	1,526	1,566	12,597
Exported ^{3/}	-	172	1,095	1,267	-	-	-	-
Total	9,031	23,740	19,958	52,729	956	5,080	6,036	57,498

^{1/} Vertical columns of figures under box heading "Production by states" represents the quantity of veneer logs cut in each state.

^{2/} Central and western states.

^{3/} Veneer logs shipped to mills outside Lake States region.